

This fear is however perfectly unnecessary, as although it constantly leaves its teeth in the object of its attack, no result more than from the scratch of a thorn ensues.

The general length of the Boa of this island is from eight to ten feet, and it is rarely found longer than fourteen feet. It feeds upon rats, birds, cats, rabbits, fowls, and all small animals. Its head is covered with small scales, unlike the generality of harmless serpents. The scales over the body are small and smooth, and beautiful tints may be observed in them when exposed to a strong light or in the sun. The abdominal scuta are 280 in number, and the subcaudal squamæ consist of 70 rows. I believe the Boa to be viviparous, from some young having been cut out of the womb of a dead female.

The Boa has the property of being able to live for a great length of time without food, water, and almost without air. I have witnessed cases of their existing in drawers and boxes unopened for months, and I have been told upon good authority of a case of a Boa looking as well and as fat after thirteen months of this species of confinement as before it.

I am unable to fix any regular period for the changes of skin to which all serpents are liable, and which appears greatly to depend upon the state of their stomachs.

2. CHARACTERS OF THREE NEW GENERA AND SPECIES OF LEPIDOPTERA. BY WILLIAM WING, M.E.S.

(Annulosa, Pl. XIV.)

Fam. NOCTUIDÆ.

1. CALIGATUS, n. g.

Palpi short, ascending; densely clothed with scales; penultimate joint long (fig. 2 a): *antennæ* bipectinated at the base, and bearded (fig. 2 b, section) ♂: *head* small, rounded, nearly concealed: *thorax* with a large, acute crest in front: *abdomen* long, furnished with two anal tufts, ♂: *anterior wings* acute at tip, broad, dentate, slightly deflexed; *posterior wings* abbreviated. Type,

CALIGATUS ANGASII, n. sp. (Annulosa, Pl. XIV. fig. 2, 3.)

Sp. Ch.—Body and base of the anterior wings of a bright fawn-colour, with a triangular diaphanous patch at the costa, another of an oval form between the costa and posterior margin, and a nearly square patch in the centre of the outer margin. General colour of the apical half of the wing pink, varied with yellow and fawn-colour; posterior wings diaphanous, with a broad ashy brown margin marked with a triangular yellow spot, and a lunular pink spot at the inner angle; cilia of all the wings white. In the male the metatarsi and tibiæ are densely clothed with long hair-like scales, making them appear very broad and flat (fig. 3). I have named this species after Mr. Angas, who has recently explored the highly interesting country of which this is a native, the Cape of Good Hope. In the collection of the British Museum.



1 TRICHOMOPLATA VITTATA 2 3 CALICATUS ANGAMI 4 5 PALPARIA LAMBERTELLA